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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/713,658	11/14/2003	Jin-Woong Kim	678-1118 (P10664)	9849

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EXAMINER	
NGUYEN, KIMNHUNG T	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2629	

DATE MAILED: 05/03/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/713,658	KIM ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Kimnhung Nguyen	2629	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5/12/05,10/19/05.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

This application has been examined. The claims 1-6 are pending. The examination results are as following.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lee (US 6,919,824).

As to claim 6, Lee discloses in figs. 2-3, a method for inputting characters of a plurality of character types using a mobile terminal, comprising the steps of:

when a controller (control unit 21) recognizes that temporary mode conversion key is pushed while inputting characters, converting a character input mode (1QZ, 2ABC, 3DEF, see fig. 2) to a temporary character input mode (A@, B#, C$); and

when the controller (control unit 21 is controled the entire of the system) recognized that the temporary mode conversion key (20) is pushed again, returning the character input mode to a previous set character input mode (because Lee discloses if the user presses the button 20 a third time, the input mode is switched to the initial numeral mode that means that the character input mode back to a previous set character input mode, see col. 5, lines 10-11), and also an inherent input mode is a set language character input mode because Lee discloses that the invention can

be applied to the input of Korean characters, this limitation is related to the language character input mode as claimed by the invention, see col. 9, lines 61-63).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee (US 6,919,824) in view of SMETHERS (US 2002/0077156).

As to claim 1, Lee discloses in figs 1, 6, a character input device for a mobile terminal (a small-sized communication terminal (see fig. 2, see col. 4, lines 17-20) including a plurality of keys (input buttons 13), each key being assigned characters of at least two different character types (1 and OZ, 2 and ABC, 3 and DEF, fig. 2), wherein the mobile terminal is previously set in a character input mode of one of the at least two different character types (1 and OZ, 2 and ABC, 3 and DEF, see fig. 2),while characters of another of the at least two different character types can be selectively input (because the button 300 is one of a plurality of character input buttons installed on the keypad assembly, wherein the characters assigned to the input button 300 can be changed, see figs. 2-3, see col. 4, lines 55-66), said character input device comprising:

at least one temporary mode conversion key (see supplemental buttons 17,18,19, 20) included in the mobile terminal; the at least two different character types assigned to each of the plurality of keys (7 and OZ, 1 and ABC, 3 and DEF, see fig. 2);

a controller (see control unit 21, fig. 5, see col. 7, lines 43-53) for selecting one of the previously set character input mode and a temporary character mode (because the beginning the numeral mode is initially set, see col. 5, lines 63-67 and col. 6, lines 1-3), based on an input of the temporary mode conversion key (contr unit 21), and reading out and recognizing character of the at least two different character types from the plurality of keys input and the selected character input mode (see col. 5, lines 57-67 and col. 6, lines 1-11).

Lee does not disclose a memory for storing character codes.

However, SMETHERS disclose a method and apparatus for facilitating access to a plurality applications on a two-way mobile communication device (200) in fig. 2, having a memory (224) for processing tasks include displaying an image map on the display screen, and operation of the various applications resident on mobile (see SMETHERS, see 0032).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the time the invention was made to implement the memory (224) for processing tasks include displaying an image map on the display screen, and operation of the various applications resident on mobile as taught by SMETHERS into the input device for a mobile terminal of Lee for producing the claimed invention because this would provide a user friendly the processing tasks performed by mobile device, these processing tasks include operation of the various applications resident on mobile device, and management of communication processing, and management of keypad input (see SMETHERS, see 0032).

As to claim 2, Lee discloses further, wherein the controller (21) recognizes input characters as converted characters in the temporary character mode while the temporary mode conversion key (switching button 20) is held (the button 20 can push and take time may be a few second), and recognizes the input characters as characters in the previously set character input mode when the temporary mode conversion key is released (because Lee teaches that if the pressed button is not the mode switching button 20, (therefore key is released) according to the determination result at step S506, the process ends, see Lee col. 7, lines 54-67). Claim 2 is depends on claim1, and is rejected on the same reasons of claim 1.

As to claim 3, Lee discloses further, wherein the controller (control input 21) recognizes input characters as converted characters in the temporary character mode (A @, B#, C$, fig. 3) when the temporary mode conversion key (button 20) is pressed, and recognizes the input characters as characters in the previously set character input mode when the temporary mode conversion key is pressed again (because if the pressed button is the mode switching button 20, the process step returns to step S501, that is the initially step, therefore the characters will be in the previously set character input mode when the temporary mode conversion key (20) is pressed again (see col. 8, lines 51-54). Claim 3 is depends on claim1, and is rejected on the same reasons of claim 1.

As to claim 4, Lee discloses further, wherein the previous set character mode (1 QZ, 2ABC, 3DEF, see fig. 2) can be changed into another character to input another character of said

at least two character types (A@, B#, C$, fig. 3, see col. 4, lines 55-66). Claim 4 is depends on claim1, and is rejected on the same reasons of claim 1.

As to claim 5, Lee discloses a method for inputting characters of a plurality of character types using a mobile terminal in figs. 2-3, comprising the steps of:

when a controller (control unit 21) recognizes that a temporary mode conversion key held down (when key 20 is pushed and take time about a few seconds) while inputting characters, converting a character input mode (1 QZ, 2ABC, 3DEF, see fig. 2) to a temporary character input mode (A@, B#, C$, fig. 3, see col. 4, lines 55-62) (102 e).

Lee does not teach that when the controller recognizes that the temporary mode conversion key is released, returning the character input mode to a previous set character input.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art a the time the invention of Lee to have the controller (control unit 21) recognizes that the temporary mode conversion key (20) is released, returning the character input mode to a previously set character input mode (1QZ, 2ABC, 3DEF, see fig. 2, because the button 20 is stopped to press or push to the keypad, it likes the beginning of the system has not pressed or pushed yet, therefore the character numeral mode always states at initial set with (1QZ, 2ABC, 3DEF, see fig. 2).

Correspondence

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kimnhung Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-7698. The examiner can normally be reached on MON-FRI, FROM 8:30 AM-5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Hjerpe can be reached on (571) 272-7691. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Kimnhung Nguyen
Examiner
May 1, 2006